

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KABUL 05602 120144Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAA-01 CPR-02 SS-15 INR-10 CIAE-00  
SSC-01 NSC-05 /045 W  
-----096266 130117Z /61  
R 110830Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8999

C O N F I D E N T I A O KABUL 5602

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ODIP, US, AF  
SUBJECT: RAHMATULLAH ASSEFI APPOINTED FIRST SECRETARY TO  
AFGHAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON

REF: STATE 172840

1. WE HAVE VERY LITTLE BIOGRAPHIC DATA ON  
RAHMATULLAH ASSEFI. HIS MOST RECENT ASSIGNMENT  
WAS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC  
AND FINANCIAL RELATIONS DIVISION OF THE MINISTRY  
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. ASSEFI IS MARRIED, WITH ONE  
SON. HE HAS FOUR BROTHERS, ONE OF WHOM, MOHAMMAD  
HAKIM, IS GOVERNOR OF DA AFGHANISTAN BANK.

2. COMMENT: THE ASSEFIS ARE A LARGE MOHAMMADZAI  
FAMILY, AND UNDER THE OLD REGIME, WERE EXCEEDINGLY  
WELL CONNECTED. IN THIS LIGHT, ASSEFI'S RETENTION  
AT THE MFA AND APPOINTMENT TO WASHINGTON ARE UNUSUAL,  
AND MAY BE A FUNCTION OF HIS POLITICAL BELIEFS, ALTHOUGH  
WE HAVE NO FIRM INFORMATION IN THIS REGARD. THE SKILLS  
REQUIRED BY THE MFA ARE IN VERY SHORT SUPPLY, AND THAT  
PARTICULAR MINISTRY MAY HAVE HAD TO RETAIN MANY  
"UNTRUSTWORTHY" OFFICIALS IN ORDER TO STAFF ITS  
OVERSEAS MISSIONS.

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3. LAST MAY, ASSEFI SERVED AS ENGLISH INTERPRE-  
TER AT AMBASSADOR ELIOT'S INITIAL COURTESY MEET-  
ING WITH THE THEN NEW FOREIGN MINISTRY SECRETARY  
GENERAL, ABDUL WAKIL, AND IN EARLY JUNE WAS AMONG  
THE HANDFUL OF FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS PRESENT  
AT THE FAREWELL LUNCHEON FOR AMBASSADOR ELIOT.  
ON BOTH OCCASIONS, HE STRUCK DCM AMSTUTZ AS

AGREEABLE AND PLEASANT. HIS ENGLISH IS VERY GOOD.  
HE APPEARS TO BE IN HIS THIRTIES.  
DUBS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978KABUL05602  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780286-0531  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 172840  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2054992  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RAHMATULLAH ASSEFI APPOINTED FIRST SECRETARY TO AFGHAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON  
**TAGS:** PDIP, US, AF, (ASSEFI, RAHMATULLAH)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014